

## **ANALYSIS**

This ordinance grants a water pipeline franchise to California-American Water Company, a California public utility corporation ("Franchisee"), to transport and distribute water for a period of fifteen (15) years. The base annual fee payable to the County by Franchisee will be determined according to a formula contained in Section 2 of this franchise ordinance. Franchisee has paid a one-time granting fee of \$5,000.

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By  
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Property Division

GVC:gjh

4/12/06 (requested)

4/19/06 (revised)

**ORDINANCE NO. \_\_\_\_\_**

**An ordinance granting a water pipeline franchise to California-American Water Company, a California public utility corporation, for the transportation and distribution of water for a period of fifteen (15) years.**

The Board of Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles ordains as follows:

**SECTION 1. Franchise Term; Grant.**

A. The right, privilege, and franchise is granted to California-American Water Company, a California public utility corporation ("Franchisee"), and its successors and assigns, for a period of fifteen (15) years, beginning on August 12, 2006, the effective date of this franchise, to lay, construct, reconstruct, maintain, operate, renew, repair, change the size of, remove, or abandon in place pipes and pipelines for the transportation of water, waste water, mud, and other liquid substances, including those substances that are generally accepted as appropriate for the treatment of water, excluding any hazardous substances or hazardous waste within the meaning of the "Comprehensive Environmental Response Compensation and Liability Act of 1980," 42 U.S.C. section 9601 et seq., and amendments thereto (provided, however, that this exclusion shall not apply to substances in such amounts that are generally accepted as appropriate for the treatment of water), together with all manholes, valves, cathodic protection systems, appurtenances, and service connections necessary, or appropriate for the operation of said pipes or pipelines, including poles, conduits, wires, cables, or other appurtenances and equipment for telegraph or telephone lines, or both, necessary or appropriate for the Franchisee's operations in, under, along, or across any and all

highways as defined in Section 16.36.080 of the Los Angeles County Code, now or hereafter dedicated to public use in the unincorporated territory of the County of Los Angeles ("County"), State of California, for the Franchisee's water service areas in the unincorporated areas of Baldwin Hills (Ladera Heights and View Park-Windsor Hills), Duarte (South Monrovia Islands), and San Gabriel Valley (East Pasadena), as depicted on Exhibit 1, Exhibit 2, and Exhibit 3 attached hereto, and any additional unincorporated territory of the County that may be added to the Franchisee's water service areas during the term of this franchise.

## **SECTION 2. Consideration; Payment of Fees.**

A. As consideration for the franchise granted, the Franchisee shall pay the County's Chief Administrative Office ("CAO") a one-time granting fee of five thousand dollars (\$5,000) within thirty (30) days after the adoption of this ordinance.

B. As additional consideration for the franchise granted, the Franchisee shall pay to the County annually in arrears, on or before April 15 following the end of each calendar year, for each year during the life of the franchise ("fee payment date"), in lawful money of the United States, a franchise fee computed annually ("annual franchise fee") as follows:

Two percent (2%) of the gross annual receipts of the Franchisee arising from the use, operation, or possession of the franchise; provided, however, that such payment shall in no event be less than one percent (1%) of the gross annual receipts of the Franchisee derived from the sale within the County of the commodity or service for which the franchise is awarded. Such percentage shall be paid annually during the life

of the franchise, including the year of granting of the franchise. In the event this amount is increased by federal or state law or the County is empowered to increase the rate, the County reserves the right to increase the rate to the maximum amount permitted by federal, state, or local law.

C. In addition to the foregoing annual franchise fee, the Franchisee shall also pay:

1. The County Department of Public Works, Construction Division, Permit Section, within sixty (60) days after the end of each calendar year, for each year of the life of the franchise, an initial construction charge calculated at a rate of one hundred dollars (\$100) per mile, or fraction thereof, for all new main lines laid during that preceding calendar year.

2. The County Auditor-Controller, within sixty (60) days after the end of each calendar year, for each year during the life of the franchise, an annual fee of twenty-five dollars (\$25) per pole-mile, or portion thereof, for aerial or above-ground lines, and twenty-five dollars (\$25) per mile, or portion thereof, for underground conduits for wire, cable, telephone, or telegraph lines maintained under the franchise during that preceding calendar year.

D. The County reserves the right to change its method of calculating fees, and the amount thereof, not more frequently than once every five (5) years, if the Board of Supervisors ("Board") determines, after a public hearing, that good cause exists for such change, and such action is not in conflict with the laws of the State of California.

E. The Franchisee shall also pay any application, administrative, and processing fees required in connection with this franchise. These fees shall be charged at the then-current applicable rates.

### **SECTION 3. Reports.**

The Franchisee shall during the life of the franchise:

A. File with the County Auditor-Controller and the CAO, Director of Real Estate, on or before each fee payment date, with one (1) copy to each, a report, verified under oath by a duly authorized representative of the Franchisee, showing as of December 31 of the immediately preceding calendar year ("franchise report period"), the total gross receipts of the Franchisee for the immediately preceding franchise report period, received or accrued in connection with the furnishing of the commodity or service arising from the use or operation of the franchise, together with such additional data as is necessary in the opinion of the County Auditor-Controller and/or the CAO, Director of Real Estate, to calculate or verify the calculation of the annual franchise fee as required by Section 2.

B. In the report prepared pursuant to subsection 3.A above, Franchisee shall also show: any change in franchise footage since the end of the most recent prior franchise report period, segregating such footage as to new main lines laid, old main lines removed, old main lines abandoned in place, including the internal diameter of such main lines laid, removed, and/or abandoned in place; the footage of new conduits laid for wires, cables, telegraph, or telephone lines, old conduits removed, old conduits abandoned in place; the diameter of such conduits laid, removed, and/or abandoned in

place; and the footage and internal diameter of main lines in territory annexed or incorporated since the last day of the most recent prior franchise report period.

C. File with the Director of the County Department of Public Works and the CAO, Director of Real Estate, within sixty (60) days after the end of each franchise report period, with one (1) copy to each, a report showing the permit number of each permit obtained for the installation of new main lines and conduits during the just completed franchise report period, together with the length and size of such main lines and conduits.

#### **SECTION 4. Late Payments.**

A. In the event Franchisee fails to make any of the payments required herein on or before the dates they are due, the Franchisee shall pay a late charge of ten percent (10%) of the amount due, said ten percent (10%) being due on the sixty-first (61st) day after the due date. The ten percent (10%) has been set by both parties hereto in recognition of the difficulty in affixing actual damages from a breach of said time of performance requirement.

B. In the event full payment of any rate, payment, or fee, including the ten percent (10%) late charge, is not received within ninety (90) days after the due date, an assessment of interest shall accrue on the unpaid balance at one percent (1%) per month beginning on the ninety-first (91st) day after the due date.

#### **SECTION 5. Indemnification, Insurance, and Bonding.**

Franchisee shall meet the following indemnification, insurance, and bonding requirements:

A. Franchisee shall indemnify, defend, and hold harmless the County and its special districts, elected and appointed officers, employees, and agents ("County's agents") from and against any and all liability and expense, including claims and lawsuits for injuries or damages of any nature whatsoever, including but not limited to bodily injury, death, personal injury, or property damage, including property of the Franchisee, and including pollution liability, defense costs, legal fees, and workers' compensation benefits, based upon, arising from, or relating to either: (1) Franchisee's operations or the services provided by Franchisee, its employees, agents, servants, receivers, contractors, subcontractors, successors, or assignees ("Franchisee's agents") in connection with this franchise; and/or (2) the acts or omissions of Franchisee, Franchisee's agents, or any person in connection with activities or work conducted or performed pursuant to this franchise and arising out of such activities or work. Franchisee shall also indemnify, defend, and hold harmless the County and the County's agents, from and against any and all pollution liability, contamination, or environmental degradation liability, including any and all expenses, claims, and lawsuits for injuries or damages of any nature whatsoever, defense costs, legal fees, and workers' compensation benefits, arising from or relating to any threatened, actual, or alleged discharge, dispersal, release, or escape of any substance into or upon any person, thing, or place, including the land, soil, atmosphere, man-made structure, and/or any above-ground or below-ground watercourse or body of water, in connection with this franchise. The Franchisee shall not be obligated to indemnify the County and

County's agents for liability and expense arising from the active negligence of the County and the County's agents.

B. The County shall be immediately notified by Franchisee of all discharge, release, or escape of any water, waste water, mud, or other substances from Franchisee's pipelines and appurtenances within the franchise area. All actions to investigate, remove, or remediate any substance reasonably demonstrated to be discharged, dispersed, released, or escaped from Franchisee's pipelines and appurtenances, and to repair or restore Franchisee's pipelines and appurtenances shall be the sole responsibility of Franchisee and shall be conducted by Franchisee or Franchisee's agents, in conformance with any and all applicable laws, ordinances, rules, regulations, requirements, and orders whatsoever, present or future, of the federal, state, County, or other applicable local government at Franchisee's sole cost and expense, and shall be immediately undertaken by Franchisee or Franchisee's agents. If Franchisee fails to take any action required pursuant to this section, County may, but shall not be obligated to, take all actions it deems appropriate at Franchisee's sole expense. Upon written demand by County, Franchisee shall reimburse County for all expenses reasonably incurred in connection with County's actions including, but not limited to, all direct and indirect costs relating to investigation, remediation, and removal.

C. Without limiting Franchisee's indemnification of County or County's agents, Franchisee shall provide and maintain at its own expense, during the term of this franchise, the following programs of insurance. Such programs and evidence of insurance shall be satisfactory to the County, and shall be primary to, and not



contributing with, any other insurance or self-insurance programs maintained by the County.

1. Certificate(s) or other evidence of coverage satisfactory to the County shall be delivered on or before the effective date of this franchise, and on or before the expiration date of each term of insurance, to the Chief Administrative Office, Real Estate Division, Attn: Property Management Section, 222 South Hill Street, 3rd Floor, Los Angeles, California 90012, or such other address(es) as Franchisee may be directed in writing by the CAO to use. Such certificates or other evidence shall:

- a. Specifically identify this franchise ordinance;
- b. Clearly evidence all insurance coverage required in this franchise ordinance;
- c. Contain the express condition that the County is to be given written notice by registered mail at least thirty (30) days in advance of any modification, non-renewal, cancellation, or termination of any program of liability insurance, and at least thirty (30) days in advance of any modification, non-renewal, cancellation, or termination of any program of workers' compensation or other insurance coverage required by this Section 5;
- d. Include a copy of the additional insured endorsement to the commercial general liability policy, adding the County and County's agents as insureds for all activities arising from this franchise; and
- e. Show the Franchisee's insurance as primary to the County's insurance and self-insurance programs. This may be evidenced by adding a statement

to the additional insured endorsement required in subsection (d) stating "It is further agreed that the insurance afforded by this policy is primary to any insurance or self-insurance programs maintained by the additional insureds, and the additional insureds' insurance and self-insurance programs are excess and non-contributing to Named Insured's insurance."

2. The County reserves the right to require copies of Franchisee's insurance policies upon request.

3. Insurance is to be provided by an insurance company with an A. M. Best rating of not less than A:VII, unless otherwise approved by the County.

4. The Franchisee agrees to release the County and County's agents and waive its rights of recovery against them under the insurance policies specified in this franchise ordinance.

5. Liability: Such insurance shall be endorsed naming the "County of Los Angeles" and the County's agents as additional insureds, expressly defining County's agents as defined hereinabove. Such insurance shall include, but not be limited to:

a. Commercial General Liability insurance written on a commercial general liability form (ISO policy form CG00 01, or its equivalent, unless otherwise approved by the County), with limits of not less than five million dollars (\$5,000,000) per occurrence, fifteen million dollars (\$15,000,000) policy aggregate, and fifteen million dollars (\$15,000,000) products/completed operations aggregate.

i. If written on a claims-made form, such insurance shall be endorsed to provide an extended reporting period of not less than two (2) years following termination or cancellation of this franchise.

b. Comprehensive Auto Liability insurance (written on ISO policy form CA 00 01, or its equivalent, unless otherwise approved by the County), endorsed for all owned, non-owned, and hired vehicles with a limit of not less than one million dollars (\$1,000,000) per occurrence.

6. Workers' Compensation: A program of Workers' Compensation insurance in an amount and form to meet all applicable requirements of the Labor Code of the State of California. Such policy shall be endorsed to waive subrogation against the County for injury to the Franchisee's employees. If the Franchisee's employees will be engaged in maritime employment, the coverage shall provide the benefits required by the Federal U.S. Longshoreman and Harbor Worker Compensation Act, Jones Act, or any other federal law to which the Franchisee is subject. In all cases, the above insurance shall include Employers' Liability insurance with coverage of not less than:

- a. Each accident: one million dollars (\$1,000,000).
- b. Disease-policy limit: one million dollars (\$1,000,000).
- c. Disease-each employee: one million dollars (\$1,000,000).

D. Franchisee shall furnish the CAO, Real Estate Division, at the location specified in subsection 5.C.1 within thirty (30) days of the adoption of this ordinance, and within thirty (30) days of the expiration date of each term of insurance, either certified copies of the policies required by subsection 5.C or a certificate of insurance for

each of said policies executed by the Franchisee's insurance agent, or by the company issuing the policy, certifying that the policy is in force.

E. As an alternative to commercial insurance from Franchisee, the County may consider and approve, at the County's sole option, Franchisee's use of a program of self-insurance or self-insured retention, upon review and approval of the following:

1. An agreement to provide the County and the County's agents with indemnification in accordance with subsections 5.A and 5.B. The County shall be provided at least the same defense of suits and payments of claims as would be provided by the commercial insurance policy described above, and without being subject to a deductible or self-insured retention.

2. A formal declaration by Franchisee to be self-insured for the type and amount of coverage indicated in this ordinance. This can be in the form of a corporate resolution or a certified statement from an authorized principal of the Franchisee. Franchisee must notify the CAO, Real Estate Division, at the location specified in subsection 5.C.1, immediately of discontinuation or substantial change in the self-insurance or self-insured retention program.

3. An agreement to notify the CAO immediately of any claim, judgment, settlement, award, verdict, or change in Franchisee's financial condition which would have a significant negative effect on the protection that the self-insurance or self-insured retention program provides to the County.

4. The names, addresses, and telephone numbers of Franchisee's legal counsel and claim representative, respectively, for the self-insurance or self-insured retention program.

5. Upon request by the CAO, an audited financial statement that gives evidence of Franchisee's capacity to respond to claims falling within the self-insurance or self-retention program. Resubmission of such a statement may be required annually for the duration of the franchise, or more frequently, at the request of the CAO.

6. A Certificate of Consent to Self-Insure issued by the State of California, Department of Industrial Relations, certifying Franchisee's compliance with the requirements of the Director of Industrial Relations under the provisions of the Labor Code of the State of California (sections 3700 to 3705, inclusive) and certifying that Franchisee has furnished satisfactory proof to said Director of Franchisee's ability to self-insure and to pay any compensation that may become due to Franchisee's employees.

7. Failure on the part of the Franchisee to comply with the County's requirements for approval of a program of self-insurance or self-insured retention will result in withdrawal of the County's approval to self-insure.

F. Within thirty (30) days following the adoption of this ordinance, Franchisee shall provide to the CAO, at the location specified in subsection 5.C.1, a faithful performance bond in the sum of not less than fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) payable to the County of Los Angeles and executed by a corporate surety, acceptable to the County and licensed to transact business as a surety in the State of California. Such

bond shall be conditioned upon the faithful performance by the Franchisee of the terms and conditions of this franchise and shall provide that, in case of any breach of condition of this franchise, the whole amount of the penal sum of \$50,000, or any portion thereof, shall be deemed to be liquidated damages, and shall be immediately payable to the County by the principal and surety(ies) of the bond.

1. Throughout the term of this franchise, Franchisee shall maintain the faithful performance bond in the amount specified herein. Within ten (10) business days after receipt of notice from the County that any amount has been withdrawn from the bond as provided in this section, Franchisee shall immediately restore the bond to the full amount specified herein.

2. The faithful performance bond shall continue to exist for one (1) year following the CAO's approval of any sale, transfer, assignment, or other change of ownership of the franchise, or following the expiration or termination of the franchise. The CAO may release said bond prior to the end of the one (1) year period upon satisfaction by Franchisee of all the obligations under the franchise.

3. At its sole option, the County may accept certificates of deposit, cash deposits, irrevocable letters of credit, or U.S. government securities in lieu of, or in addition to, commercial bonds to meet the above bonding requirements. Such alternative security shall be made payable to the County and shall be deposited with the County's Auditor-Controller and/or Treasurer Tax Collector, as applicable.

G. The types and amounts of said insurance coverage and bonding shall be subject to review and adjustment by the County, at County's sole discretion, at any time

during the term of the franchise. In the event of such adjustment, Franchisee agrees to obtain said adjusted insurance coverage and bonding, in type(s) and amount(s) as determined by the County, within thirty (30) days after written notice from the County.

H. Failure on the part of Franchisee to procure or maintain the required insurance and bonding, or to provide evidence of current insurance and bonding, shall constitute a material breach of the terms of this franchise upon which the County may immediately terminate or suspend this franchise.

I. It is the obligation of Franchisee to provide evidence of current insurance policies and bonding. Any franchise operations shall not commence until Franchisee has complied with the provisions of this Section 5, and any operations shall be suspended during any period that Franchisee fails to obtain or maintain the insurance and bonding required hereunder.

## **SECTION 6. Transfers and Assignments.**

A. Franchisee shall not sell, transfer, assign, lease, hypothecate, place in trust, or change the control of the franchise or any part thereof (each of which is hereinafter referred to as an "assignment"), to any other person or entity ("transferee") except with the prior written consent of the CAO, and after payment of a transfer fee as detailed in subsection 6.G. As used in this section, "transfer" includes stock transfer, and "control" includes actual working control in whatever manner exercised.

B. Franchisee shall give notice to the CAO of any pending assignment, except as excluded in subsection 6.E, and shall provide all documents requested by the CAO, as set forth in subsection 6.F, on which the assignment is predicated. Consent to

any such assignment shall only be refused if the CAO finds that Franchisee is in noncompliance with the terms and conditions of the franchise and/or that the proposed transferee, as applicable, is lacking in experience and/or financial ability to meet the franchise obligations. Consent from the CAO shall be conditioned upon: (1) the terms and conditions set forth in the assignment documents delivered to County; (2) the assumption by the transferee, as applicable, of all the Franchisee's covenants and obligations under the franchise; and (3) all information provided to the CAO under subsection 6.F, below, being true and correct as of the actual date of transfer, except that the County may waive minor changes and discrepancies in its sole discretion. Upon receipt of such consent from the CAO, Franchisee may proceed to consummate the assignment.

C. Franchisee shall file with the CAO within thirty (30) days after the effective date of any assignment, a certified copy of the duly executed instrument(s) which officially evidences such assignment. If such duly executed instrument(s) is not filed with the CAO within thirty (30) days after the effective date of such proposed assignment, or if the conditions to consent by the CAO have not been met, then the CAO may notify the Franchisee and the proposed transferee that the assignment is not deemed approved by the County. The CAO may then administratively determine that the assignment has no force or effect and/or that the franchise is forfeited and the Board may repeal this franchise.

D. As a condition to granting consent to such assignment, the County may impose such additional terms and conditions upon this franchise and upon the proposed



transferee which the CAO recommends or the Board deems to be in the public interest. Such additional terms and conditions shall be expressed by ordinance. Nothing contained herein shall be construed to grant Franchisee the right to complete an assignment except in the manner aforesaid. This section applies to any assignment, whether by operation of law, by voluntary act of Franchisee, or otherwise.

E. Notwithstanding the foregoing, shareholders, partners, and/or any other person or entity owning an interest in Franchisee may transfer, sell, exchange, assign, or divest themselves of any interest they may have therein. However, in the event any such sale, transfer, exchange, assignment, divestment, or other change is effected in such a way as to give control of, or a twenty-five percent (25%) or more interest in, Franchisee, to any person or persons, corporation, partnership, or legal entity other than those with the controlling interest, or twenty-five percent (25%) or more interest, in the Franchisee on the effective date of the franchise or the effective date of the last approved assignment, consent thereof shall be required as otherwise provided in this Section 6.

F. Upon notice by Franchisee of any pending assignment, the proposed transferee shall submit an assignment application to the CAO, which shall contain at a minimum:

1. Identification of the proposed transferee which indicates the corporate or business entity organization, including the submittal of copies of the corporate or business formation papers (e.g., articles of incorporation and by-laws, limited partnership agreements, operating agreements), and the names and addresses

of any parent or subsidiary of the proposed transferee(s), or any other business entity owning or controlling the proposed transferee in part or in whole;

2. A current financial statement, which has been audited by a certified public accountant demonstrating conclusively to the satisfaction of the CAO that the proposed transferee has all the financial resources necessary to carry out all of the terms and conditions of the franchise. The financial statement shall include a balance sheet, profit and loss statement for at least the three (3) most recent years, and a statement of changes in financial position; however, if the proposed transferee has been in existence for less than three (3) years, then for such period of existence;

3. A copy of the proposed agreement of sale, letter of understanding, or other documentation which details the proposed assignment ("assignment documents"); and

4. Other information which may be required by the CAO to assess the capability of the proposed transferee to operate and maintain the franchise.

G. The transfer fee shall be submitted with the Franchisee's request for the County's consent to any assignment described in subsection 6.A and shall be determined as follows:

1. Consent to assignment or any other action, in which the County does not elect to modify the franchise by adoption of an amending ordinance: one thousand dollars (\$1,000).

2. Consent to assignment or any other action, in which the County elects to modify the franchise by adoption of an amending ordinance: two thousand five hundred dollars (\$2,500).

3. In the event County's actual costs to process the proposed assignment application, including any consultant's fees incurred by the County to assist in evaluating the application, exceed the fees detailed above, the Franchisee and proposed transferee may be required to pay any additional costs incurred by the County in processing the Franchisee's and/or proposed transferee's request for assignment. Such costs shall be paid by the Franchisee and the proposed transferee prior to final consideration of the request by the CAO or the Board, as applicable.

#### **SECTION 7. Relocation of Pipelines.**

In the event the Franchisee receives notice to relocate its pipelines and appurtenances pursuant to Section 16.52.290 of the County Code, in addition to all obligations of Franchisee and rights of the County under Sections 16.38.450 and 16.52.290 of the County Code, if Franchisee neglects or fails to relocate its facilities in a timely manner after receipt of any such notice, Franchisee shall be solely responsible for, and shall reimburse the County, city, and other applicable public entities for, any and all additional costs or expenses incurred by the County, city, and other applicable public entities, due to, or resulting from, such delay or relocation of the facilities.

#### **SECTION 8. Pipeline Franchise Ordinance.**

In addition to the terms and conditions stated herein, this franchise is granted under all of the terms and conditions contained in the County Pipeline Franchise

Ordinance, Title 16, Division 3A, Chapter 16.54, of the Los Angeles County Code, as codified in 1978 and amended to date, which is incorporated herein by reference, as it may hereafter be amended. In the event the terms and conditions of this franchise conflict with the terms of the County Pipeline Franchise Ordinance, the terms and conditions hereof shall control. Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, Sections 16.52.020H, 16.52.100, 16.52.110, 16.52.120, 16.52.140, 16.52.220, 16.54.080, and 16.54.090 are superseded by this franchise granting ordinance.

**SECTION 9. Franchise Operative Date.**

The operative date of this franchise shall be August 12, 2006.

[CA-AmericanFrnGCCC]